THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENIVIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b)The National Human Rights Commission had issued notice to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on a complaint lodged by All India Democratic Women Association (AIDWA) relating to the following advertisements being shown on television channels:-

(i) Fair & Lovely

(ii) Life Insurance

(iii) ICICI

(c) and (d) Action against the TV channels can be taken only under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995. All the channels transmitted or retransmitted through the Cable Network are expected to conform to the Programme and Advertisement Code prescribed under the Cable Act. Action for violations of the Act can be taken by the authorised officers *viz.* District Magistrates, Commissioner of Police, etc. A Committee has also been constituted under Section 20 of the above Act by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to look into the violations of the Advertisement Code prescribed under the Act. It has been decided to place the matter before the said Committee.

Increasing accident rate in metropolitan cities

2143. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased of state:

(a) whether it is a fact that high speed driving, unregulated traffic and technical flaws in the vehicles are the major causes for the increasing accident rate in the metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study on roads safety aspects and nature of traffic on Indian roads have been conducted; and

(d) if so, what are the recommendations of the study and what steps Government propose to take to implement these recommendations/ suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Various reasons for road accidents are lack of traffic discipline on the part of drivers and road users, phenomenal

increase in the number of motor vehicles with no corresponding increase in road capacity, mixed traffic conditions, over-speeding, over-loading, drunken driving, mechanical defect in vehicles etc. However, it has been observed that 83.5% of accidents have been caused by the fault of drivers and only 3.0% on account of mechanical defects in the vehicles.

(c) and (d) Study and analysis of road accidents and implementation of various road safety measures is a continuous and ongoing exercise. The measures taken to reduce road accidents broadly are strengthening and widening of roads wherever necessary, improvement of road geometries, provision of road signages, construction of by-passes, providing training to the drivers particularly in the unorganized sector, publicity campaigns for awareness among the road users, various enforcement and regulatory measures like checking of overloading, checking of valid permit for driving transport vehicles and checking/ certifying the periodical fitness of the transport/commercial vehicles.

States who have not set up Human Rights Courts

2144. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the States who have not, so far, set up 'Human Rights Courts' as provided in Protection of Human Rights Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): As per information available, the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Kamataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttaranchal and West Bengal have not notified 'Human Rights Courts' as per the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

Suspension of funding to Indian NGOs

2145. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report entitled "U.S. corporates suspend funding to IDRF" appeared in The Hindu' dated 25th November, 2002;

(b) if so, the details of fund received by each NGOs working in India from the U.S. based charity Indian Development and Relief Fund for the last three years, year-wise;